



# WELCOME

## TO THE SHRIVENHAM AND ASHBURY BENEFICE

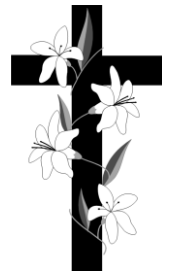
“Mirroring the hospitality of God”

Sunday 24th May Seventh Sunday of Easter

The Vicar: The Rev'd Norma Fergusson. Tel 01793 784338

Licensed Lay Minister: Mr Richard Fergusson. Tel 07788 436831

[www.shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk](http://www.shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk)



### **Seventh Sunday of Easter**

David Ahern is giving this week's talk.

Watch on our Facebook page or YouTube channel.  
Available from 9am on Sunday 24th May.

11.00am Holy Communion. Live on Facebook.  
5:30pm Evensong (BCP). Live on Facebook.

You don't need  
a Facebook or YouTube account to join in!  
A 'How To' guide can be downloaded  
from the services page on our website.

### **Monday**

7:00pm Bereavement Café. Live via Zoom.  
7:30pm Alpha. Live via Zoom.

### **Tuesday**

9:00am Morning Prayer using the Iona Liturgy.  
Live on Facebook.

### **Wednesday**

10:30am The Prayer Course. Live via Zoom.

### **Thursday**

9:00am Matins (BCP). Live on Facebook.  
6:30pm Anthem of the Week (Choir)

### **Friday**

### **Saturday**

5:45pm "Come Holy Spirit" Prayer Meeting  
Live via Zoom.

### **Sunday 31st May Pentecost**

11.00am Holy Communion. Live on Facebook.

All links, orders of services and readings will be posted  
on the services page of our website  
[www.shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk](http://www.shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk)

### **Diocesan Survey – Online Services**

Dr Simon Cross in Bishop Steven's office is looking at  
the impact of churches being unable meet in person.

If you are attending online church services, you are  
invited to complete this [short survey](#) as soon as possible  
after the next online service you attend.

If you attend the Diocesan Church at Home service  
and/or a number of other services from different  
parishes, you are welcome to complete the survey for  
each online service you've been to.

### **Ashbury Cycle of Prayer**

Please pray this week for all who live  
and work in Kingstone Winslow.

### **Our condolences**

to the family of the late Michael O'Dougan who has died  
recently. The burial has taken place.

### **Virtual Bereavement Café**



Image by Lolame from Pixabay

Monday 25th May from 7 – 8pm. Live via Zoom.

An informal online get-together for anyone who has been  
bereaved at any time, hosted by Rose-Anne and Norma.  
Open to all, regardless of faith or beliefs. Free of charge.

If you would like to 'drop in' please contact Rose-Anne or  
Norma and they will send details of how to take part.

Rose-Anne O'Hare

[roseanne.o@outlook.com](mailto:roseanne.o@outlook.com) 01793 784017

Rev'd Norma Fergusson

[vicar@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk](mailto:vicar@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk) 01793 784338

Tuesday 26th May should have seen the licensing of the  
Rev'd Nina Summerfield as Associate Vicar  
to the Benefice. We look forward to welcoming her on  
27th September.

Please keep Nina and her family in your prayers.

### **Pentecost "Come Holy Spirit" Prayer Meeting**

Saturday 30th May at 5:45 pm. Live via Zoom.

Sunday 31st May is Pentecost, so on Saturday 30th May  
we are inviting the churches of the Shrivenham &  
Ashbury Benefice and beyond to join us at a Prayer  
Meeting to thank God for sending the Holy Spirit. We will  
be worshipping, reading scripture, and of course praying,  
including a time to invite the Holy Spirit into our lives.

Contact David Ahern for details of how to take part.

01793 783521 [thestable@protonmail.com](mailto:thestable@protonmail.com)

### **Other ways to join in with worship**

Visit the 'other ways to worship' page on our website for  
links to on-line services, phone apps for daily prayers  
and other useful resources. If you know anyone who is  
not on-line and would like a paper copy, let us know.

[www.shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk](http://www.shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk)

## A Message from Maisey, Edna and Mabel



### Watchfield Community Spirit

A major focal point during the pandemic has been the daily visit to the animals in the Church Paddock behind St Thomas'. Maisey the donkey and Edna and Mabel the sheep have become local celebrities and many, many families factor in a diversion to the field as part of their daily walks. The excited sounds toddlers shouting "Eee-Aww" and Maisey's replies can be heard around the village and the animals seem to have responded to the increased need for some comfort at this time. They move toward visitors for gentle contact and are especially responsive to their younger fans.

Maisey, Edna and Mabel have also stood vigil by the fence for funerals in the adjoining cemetery when family attendance has been limited. They sometimes announce their presence and join in with the occasional amen but are generally respectful.

Maisey, Edna and Mabel all hope the spirit of community, togetherness, appreciation for the environment and gentleness of spirit will continue long after we have forgotten about Covid-19.

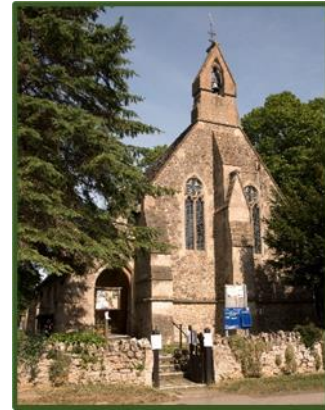


Photo by Les Minchinton-Smith

Although our buildings are closed, our churches still rely on donations to stay active and provide care and pastoral support to everyone. We would like to say a huge thank you to all those who already make a financial contribution towards our mission and ministry and the upkeep of our buildings during this difficult and uncertain time.

If you would like to know more about supporting us, please telephone our Treasurers on the numbers below.

Shrivenham, Watchfield and Bourton 01793 784756  
Longcot and Fernham 01793 783324  
Compton Beauchamp 01793 710889  
Ashbury 01793 710208

If you would like to make a text donation, please to use the numbers below.

### For Ashbury

Text **STMARYS 5** to **70085** to donate **£5**

For Shrivenham, Watchfield & Bourton

Text **SWB** to **70460** to donate **£5**

Text **SWB** to **70450** to donate **£10**

For Longcot and Fernham

Text **LONGCOT** to **70085** to donate **£4**

Your standard text message rate applies.

## Church Services by Telephone



**Daily Hope** offers music, prayers, and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England. Dial 0800 804 8044 to hear a special greeting from the Archbishop, then choose from a range of options, including hymns, prayers, reflections, traditional morning and evening prayer and advice on COVID-19. Calls are free of charge.

**Church at Home** services from the Diocese of Oxford can be accessed by telephone. Dial 01865 920930 to hear the latest service (press 0= short service, 1= full service). Normal call rates apply.

## Light a Candle of Hope

Place a lighted candle in the window at 7pm on Sunday as a sign of solidarity and hope in the light of Christ that can never be extinguished.

### Loving God,

We pray for all those who are suffering because of the coronavirus,  
may they know your healing power.  
When we are afraid for ourselves and our loved ones,  
give us your strength and courage.  
When we feel alone and isolated,  
reassure us with a sense of your presence.  
Give wisdom to those in authority  
and may our community work together for the good of all.  
We give thanks for those who care for others and ask  
you to bless them in all they do.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus, healer and physician.  
Amen

Please contact Rev'd Fergusson for pastoral issues, and a churchwarden or the Benefice Administrator ([shrivenham.ashbury.benefice@outlook.com](mailto:shrivenham.ashbury.benefice@outlook.com)) for other church enquiries.